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November 14, 2001

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Specialist 

RE: Site Inspection, Robert L. Clark, Number 1 Clark Mine, S/015/074, Emery County, Utah

Date of Inspection: October 30, 2001
Time of Inspection: 2:15-2:30 p.m.
Conditions: Mostly cloudy, 60's
Participants: Paul Baker, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection:

Inspected the site while in the area. There was no specific purpose for the inspection.

Observations:

This is the site of an abandoned coal mine, the Cowboy Mine. The site shows no signs of recent disturbance other than vehicles on the road leading to the site and in a loop by the portals.

There are two open portals with old, partially collapsed, beams. There are two other places that have been dug back under the highwall, but they are not really portals. The material into which the portals and holes were dug is not competent coal; it would be better to describe it as a shaley coal. It has platy structure and appears to slough off fairly easily.

In addition to the mine openings, there is some coal waste to the north of the portals.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

I consider the mine openings to be very dangerous, although I would hope no one would be stupid enough to go in them. The supports and the "coal" are not at all stable.

John Blake with the School and Institutional Trust Land Administration said the operator accepted no responsibility for past disturbance when the lease was issued; therefore, the operator cannot

Page 2

Robert L. Clark

S/015/074

November 14, 2001

be held liable for closing the portals. Mark Mesch, with the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation program, indicated his group may be able to do some simple closures.

Getting to the site:

Starting at the corner of 300 East and 400 South in Emery, take 300 East south for about 2.25 miles. At this point, there is a road that veers off to the southeast. Take this road for about 2.25 miles at which point there is a turnoff to the south. Don't take this one—go to the next turnoff a short distance later. The mine is a little less than 0.5 miles down this road.

jb

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